

Living A Life of Freedom In Christ

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SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Worship Harvest Church | Pastor Mirek Hufton

1. SERMON RECAP

In this message, I shared that Jesus came specifically to set every person free from the bondages that sin, the enemy, and life's painful circumstances create. True freedom isn't a license to do whatever we please -- it's the ability to do what pleases God, much like a pianist who practices for years finally has the freedom to make beautiful music. I challenged us to plant our feet firmly in the freedom Christ won for us, and to refuse to be caught again in the shackles of slavery.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Galatians 5:1 (NKJV)

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."

3. ICE BREAKER

Think of a moment in your life when you finally felt truly free from something -- even something small, like finishing a stressful project or paying off a debt. What did that freedom feel like?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1 -- Opening the Word

In Luke 4:18, Jesus announces His entire mission: preaching good news to the poor, healing the brokenhearted, proclaiming liberty to captives, and setting the oppressed free. Which one of those categories resonates most with you personally right now, and why?

Question 2 -- Getting Honest

I used the image of Lazarus walking out of the tomb still wrapped in grave clothes -- born again but still bound. Can you relate to that picture? What are some "grave clothes" that Christians can still carry around

even after they've given their lives to Christ?

Question 3 -- Digging Deeper

Romans 6:6 tells us that our old self was crucified with Christ so that the body of sin might be done away with. If that's spiritually true for every believer, why do you think so many Christians still feel trapped by the same sins or emotional patterns year after year? What's the gap between the truth of Scripture and everyday experience?

Question 4 -- Practical Steps

I talked about four steps toward walking in freedom: believe you're free, choose to live free, resist temptation, and take the offensive by actively using your life for righteousness. Which of those four is hardest for you personally, and what makes it difficult?

Question 5 -- The Love Question

I said that love might be the biggest fruit of real freedom -- because when you're truly free, nobody can stay in your "offenders" file for long. You just forgive and love. Is there a situation or a person in your life right now where unforgiveness is quietly keeping you in a cage? What would it look like to take a step toward freedom there?

Question 6 -- Going Deeper on Joy

In John 15:11, Jesus says, "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full." I made the point that you'll never find Jesus depressed or sorrowful -- He was the picture of a free, joyful person. How does your picture of Jesus match that description? Does it change how you approach your own daily attitude?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, identify one specific thing that has been functioning like a "cage" in your life -- whether it's a negative thought pattern, a habit, a relationship dynamic, or a wound you've been carrying. Write it down on a piece of paper. Then pray over it every day this week using this simple declaration: "Jesus, you came to set captives free. I believe I am free from _____, and I choose to walk in that freedom today." At your next group meeting, share what shifted -- even if it was just a small thing.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for revelation: Ask the Holy Spirit to make the reality of freedom in Christ more than head knowledge -- pray that it moves from information into a deep, lived conviction in each group member's spirit.
- Pray for breakthrough from specific bondages: Take a moment to pray specifically and boldly over any area of emotional, spiritual, or relational bondage that members of your group are willing to name -- whether it's anxiety, unforgiveness, past hurt, or habitual sin.
- Pray for joy: Ask God to restore the full, overflowing joy that Jesus promised in John 15:11 to anyone in the

group who has been living under a cloud of sadness, discouragement, or heaviness.

7. MEMORY VERSE

John 8:36 (NKJV)

"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

Write it on a sticky note. Put it somewhere you'll see it every single morning this week.

"Plant your feet firmly within the freedom which Christ has won for us." -- Galatians 5:1 (Phillips)